

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	DOCKET NO. RPU-00-1 (TF-00-64)
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**ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR ADDITIONAL TIME,  
REVISING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE, AND PROVIDING NOTICE  
OF INTENT TO CONSIDER REMANDED ISSUES**

(Issued June 22, 2000)

On March 15, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S West), filed a proposed tariff identified as TF-00-64 in which U S West proposes to deaverage its wholesale and retail rates in Iowa. Pursuant to rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission, states that conduct arbitration proceedings to establish geographically deaveraged rates for unbundled network elements (UNEs) (U S West's "wholesale" rates) are required to set rates for at least three zones by May 1, 2000. See 47 C.F.R. § 51.507(f). U S West asserts that wholesale and retail rates should be deaveraged at the same time, using the same rate group structure, to avoid pricing anomalies and disparities.

The Utilities Board (Board) also notes that it is the recipient of an order from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa remanding to the Board certain issues relating to U S West's wholesale rates. These issues include geographic deaveraging, the use of TELRIC modeling to set UNE rates, the

availability of dark fiber as an UNE, and the issue of combinations of UNEs. Each of these issues is raised by the filing of U S West's proposed tariff, and the Board hereby notifies the parties of its intent to address all of the remanded UNE issues in this docket.

On April 14, 2000, the Board docketed U S West's filing as a formal proceeding identified as Docket No. RPU-00-1 and established a procedural schedule. On May 26, 2000, the Board issued an order directing U S West to file revised UNE prices and models reflecting the sale of 32 Iowa exchanges reviewed by the Board in Docket No. SPU-99-31. The Board directed U S West to file the information within two weeks; that is, on or before June 9, 2000.

On June 6, 2000, U S West filed a motion for additional time, stating that it would be able to timely file all of the required information but would need additional time to prepare studies of the costs to provide retail services. U S West requested an additional seven days to file that information, to June 16, 2000.

On June 8, 2000, McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., filed a response to U S West's motion for extension of time, stating that it had no objection to granting the motion so long as the deadline for filing its own direct testimony and exhibits was also extended by seven days; that is, from June 26, 2000, to July 3, 2000.

On June 9, 2000, Crystal Communications, Inc., and Goldfield Access Network, L.C., filed a similar response to the U S West motion, and on June 16,

2000, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice filed a similar response.

On June 16, 2000, U S West filed the additional information that was the subject of its motion for additional time.

The Board will grant U S West's motion for additional time and will also extend the deadline for Consumer Advocate and any intervenors to file direct testimony and for those parties to file rebuttal testimony to each other. The remainder of the schedule will be unchanged.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. The motion for additional time filed on June 6, 2000, by U S West is granted.
2. The procedural schedule in this matter is revised as follows:
  - a. Consumer Advocate and any intervenors shall file prepared direct testimony, with underlying workpapers and exhibits, on or before July 3, 2000. If a party refers to a data request in its prepared testimony, the data request shall be filed as an exhibit.
  - b. If Consumer Advocate and any intervenors find it necessary to file testimony in rebuttal to each other's direct testimony, they may file rebuttal testimony on or before July 24, 2000.

All other procedural provisions of the Board's original scheduling order remain the same.

3. The parties are hereby notified that all issues remanded to the Board by order of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa in U S West Communications, Inc., v. Thoms, et al., Civil No. 97-CV-70082, are to be addressed in this docket.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.      /s/ Diane Munns  
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2000.